



GOOD READS BEFORE GOODNIGHTS

Where will your imagination take you tonight?



children's
books
ireland
every child a reader

2021
GUIDE



#READERSWANTED



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Children's Books Ireland wish to acknowledge the work of our *Inis* magazine and Recommended Reads guide reviewers.



#READERSWANTED

At **An Post**, our brand purpose is to act for the common good, to improve quality of life in Ireland now and for generations to come. With this in mind, An Post are proud sponsors of the Irish Book Awards since 2018. Here at An Post, we have always wanted more people reading and writing. We know that the personal benefits of being able to read and write are undeniably good. This is why we are so proud to support Children's Books Ireland and bring you this great bedtime reading guide in partnership with them.

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Children's Books Ireland is the national charity and arts organisation that champions every child's right to develop a love of reading. Through our many activities and events we aim to engage young people with books, foster a greater understanding of the importance of books for young people and act as a core resource for those with an interest in books for children in Ireland. Our mission is to inspire a love of reading in children and young people in Ireland, to share our expertise and enthusiasm with the adults who guide and influence them, to champion every child's right to excellent books and live literature events and support the artists who make that goal possible across the island of Ireland.

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TOP TIPS

Each stage in your child's life passes quickly. Different books will suit each stage in their development and their interests. A regular bedtime-story routine will help make books a central part of your child's life. Children who have been read to at bedtime from an early age tend to love books and are more likely to become life-long readers.

- 1.** Make reading a daily habit if you can. Give your child easy access to books and other reading materials at home – these could be borrowed from the school library or public library.
- 2.** Create a reading area. Your reading space doesn't have to be big or have a lot of bookshelves. It can be a corner of the couch or a chair.
- 3.** Act as a role model and read in front of your child – they learn from what they see. Watching you reading magazines, newspapers, manuals, recipes and books shows your child that reading is important.
- 4.** Join your local library (you can do this in person or online) and take advantage of the FREE selection. You can also borrow ebooks and audiobooks online using the BorrowBox app.
- 5.** Asking an older sibling to read to a younger one is a great way to build confidence in reading for the older child in a safe and friendly environment.
- 6.** Let your child pick what to read. Children are more likely to want to read something they pick out themselves. Don't worry if they return to the same books over and over: rereading books is a great way to gain confidence and keeps reading fun for them.
- 7.** As they become more independent as readers, make sure to talk to them about what they have just finished reading. This will help to make reading feel like a family activity.
- 8.** Listening to an audiobook together can be a great way to get a more reluctant reader to enjoy a story.
- 9.** If your child has difficulty reading and gets frustrated, take a step back and see where they are struggling. Talk with their teacher. There is support and there are options – for starters try shorter books with less words, graphic novels with more images, non-fiction books with bite-sized information.
- 10.** Make reading part of your child's night-time routine. This habit helps your child learn to associate reading with relaxation.
- 11.** After a busy day, a bedtime story can create a space between the activity of the day and sleep, helping your child to wind down.
- 12.** Establishing a routine where every night they help choose the stories they want to hear is a nice way of showing that it is time for bed.
- 13.** Settling down together with their favourite books may help cut down on bedtime battles.
- 14.** Reading at bedtime will give you a chance to spend a few minutes of calm and cosy time together, with a little chat, a cuddle and a story before sleep.
- 15.** Make sure babysitters are aware of the importance of the bedtime story so it's not forgotten. Having the same stories read can help your child feel secure and less anxious.
- 16.** Bedtime stories about challenges in their lives, like potty training, going to crèche or a new baby in the family, can help soothe children's fears.
- 17.** Avoid any over-stimulating books at this time. Gentle stories with soothing rhythms are best.



XAVIER DENEUX

MY DREAMS: BABY BASICS

TWIRL BOOKS 2016 (BOARD) 20PP £8.99 ISBN 9791027601912

Experts, parents and guardians agree that interactive books featuring high-contrast visuals stimulate babies' brain development, as well as keeping them engaged and entertained. Follow one little boy's whimsical dream as he flies through the air on a magic carpet, climbs up the back of a dinosaur and even rides on the back of a whale! This book encourages tactile exploration, supports hand-eye coordination and helps to develop a healthy sense of awareness. With glow-in-the-dark elements to accompany the enchanting illustrations, this beautiful book makes a wonderful gift for newborns! (Age 0–2)



SOPHY HENN

BEDTIME WITH TED

BLOOMSBURY CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2017 (BOARD) 10PP £6.99 ISBN 9781408880791

It's Ted's bedtime but he's far too busy splashing with penguins in the bath and brushing his teeth with crocodiles. Join in the fun as Ted is too busy for bedtime – lift the flaps to find out what he is doing next! But all the craziness leads to a quiet and soothing ending, making this the ideal fun bedtime read for toddlers. This stylishly illustrated journey towards bed will delight all young procrastinators and, since Ted does end up in bed, it's a perfect bedtime story for the very young. (Age 0–2)

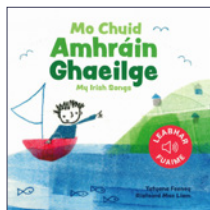


ORIANNE LALLEMAND agus ÉLÉONORE THUILLIER

MACÁN SAN OÍCHE DHORCHA

LEABHAR BREAC 2016 (CRUA) 18LCH €6.00 ISBN 9781909907942

Bíonn eachtraí éagsúla ag Macán sa tsraith seo. Tá sé go deas compordach ina leaba san oíche ach ní maith leis an dorchadas. Ceapann sé go bhfuil púca sa chófra agus dragan faoin leaba! Cuireann Mama agus Daidí an solas ar siúl sa halla agus tugann barróg mhór ghrámhar dó agus sa deireadh titeann siadsan ina gcodladh i leaba Mhacáin! Tá páipéar snasta sa leabhar seo agus is féidir le lámha beaga é a phiocadh suas agus na leathanaigh a chasadh arís is arís eile. (Aois 0–2)

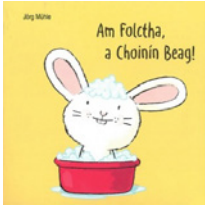


RISTEARD Mac LIAM maisithe ag TATYANA FEENEY

MO CHUID AMHRÁIN GHAELIGE

ML ÓG 2020 (CLÁR) 14LCH €10.00 ISBN 9782919958993

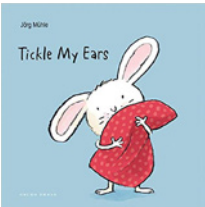
Is cnusach beag d'amhráin thraidisiúnta na Gaeilge atá curtha le chéile in *Mo Chuid Amhráin Ghaeilge* agus *Mo Chuid Amhráin Ghaeilge 2*. Tá amhráin roghnaithe a mbeidh cuimhne ag an léitheoir fásta orthu óna laethanta scoile, idir Báidín Fheilimí agus Éireoidh mé ar maidin. Cuireann an stíl mhaisitheoireachta ina bhfuil braistint bhrionglóideach go mór leis na hamhráin thraidisiúnta dhraíochtúla seo. Bainfidh tuismitheoirí agus páistí sult as éisteacht le hamhrán nó dhó roimh dhul a chodladh. Léigh leat! Can leat! (Aois 0–2)



JORG MÜHLE aistrithe ag TADHG Mac DHONNAGÁIN
AM FOLCTHA, A CHOINÍN BEAG! 🍀

FUTA FATA 2021 (CLÁR) 20LCH €8.95 ISBN 9781910945698

Sa leabhar idirghníomhach seo, is féidir leat cabhrú le Coinín Beag fáil réidh le dul a luí. Ar dtús, caithfidh sé dul isteach san fholacadán. Cuirfidh tú uisce air, déanfaidh tú a cheann a chuimilt le sobal, agus ansin bí réidh lena thriomú. Ag deireadh an leabhar is féidir, ‘oíche mhaith’, a rá leis an gcoinín beag glan. Is féidir leat cabhrú le heachtraí eile Coinín Beag sa leagan Gaeilge de *Tickle my Ears*, ar a dtugtar *Codladh Sámh, a Choinín Beag!* (Aois 0–2)



JÖRG MÜHLE
TICKLE MY EARS

GECKO PRESS 2016 (BOARD) 20PP €6.99 ISBN 9781776570768

A beautifully illustrated and delightful book which encourages interaction from the reader. It invites toddlers to participate in Little Rabbit's bedtime ritual and then rewards them for their helpfulness. Little Rabbit needs to be put to bed, and the child is encouraged to swap usual roles and settle the rabbit to sleep by fluffing his pillow, tickling his ears, tucking in the blanket and so on. Mühle's simple outlined illustrations on clean, pastel-coloured backgrounds have a gentle quality perfectly suited to the bedtime theme. Also available as *gaeilge: Codladh Sámh, a Choinín Beag!* (Age 0–2)



ANNE PARADIS aistrithe ag TADHG Mac DHONNAGÁIN
BABÁÍ CATHAL: AM DUL A LUÍ 🍀

FUTA FATA 2019 (CLÁR) 10LCH €7.95 ISBN 9781910945360

Bhí folcadán deas ag babáí Cathal agus tá sé beagnach réidh le dul a chodladh. Caithfidh tusa cabhrú leis, áfach, teacht ar a bhrístín agus a phitseámaí, agus leabhar a roghnú. Agus ná déan dearmad ar a theid! Cabhraíonn an leabhar seo leat dul trí na céimeanna beaga le hullmhú don leaba. Céard é an rud deireanach atá ag teastáil ó Chathal? Póigín! Bainfidh páiste óg sult as na flapáí a ardú agus cabhrú le Cathal teacht ar gach rud a chabhróidh leis titim ina chodladh. (Aois 0–2)



CHRIS HAUGHTON
GOODNIGHT EVERYONE 🍀

WALKER BOOKS 2018 (BOARD) 32PP £12.99 ISBN 9781406381573

Goodnight Everyone follows a wide-awake (for now) little bear through an evening-time woodland where all the animals are getting ready for bed. The pared-down text has a hypnotic quality which rapidly has readers and listeners echoing the protagonists' yawns. The warm and oh-so-clever illustrations are full of visual clues for prereaders to spot and convey an extra layer of gentle humour. The sublime, starry night time scenes and an infectious yawny 'good night' refrain creates a lulling bedtime read. (Age 0–3)



RACHEL BRIGHT illustrated by CHRIS CHATTERTON

THE WORRYSAURUS

ORCHARD BOOKS 2020 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781408356128

It is a sunny and beautiful day for the lovely picnic our young hero dinosaur has planned. Yet, soon, the worrysaurus's worries get in the way and threaten to ruin the day: his busy head can't stop imagining all the things that could possibly go wrong! Maybe it would be better to go back inside his safe dino den ... With endearing characters, warm colours and charming prose, this picturebook brims with positivity and deals tactfully with anxiety by showing young readers that it is possible to chase and appease one's fears away. (Age 0–4)



BEATRICE ALEMAGNA translated by DANIEL HAHN

THE BIG LITTLE THING

TATE PUBLISHING 2019 (HBK) 32PP £12.99 ISBN 9781849766456

The simplicity of this beautiful book belies its big message about life, happiness and being open to good things. Phrased in poetic lines, the book allows children and adults to engage with the small joys that visit our lives and are all too easily missed. The simple lessons this book carries are vital to a generation of children whose lives are busy and whose attention is often fragmented. Beautiful in concept, form and expression, this book will awaken the senses of children and adults alike. (Age 0–7)

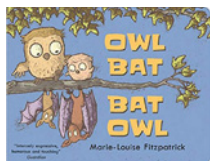


KAREN JAMESON illustrated by MARC BOUTAVANT

WOODLAND DREAMS

CHRONICLE BOOKS 2020 (HBK) 32PP £12.99 ISBN 9781452170633

Walking through the evening forest, a young girl and her dog quietly observe and capture the bedtime routines of all the woodland animals. With rich autumnal colours, gradually transitioning to winter scenes, Marc Boutavant's illustrations are integral to the story. After her long ramble through the forest, and after reciting goodnight poems to each of the animals, the girl returns to her own home to sleep. With short read-along poems, the book will gently lull readers to sleep and fill their imaginations with beautiful forest landscapes. (Age 0–4, 5–7)



MARIE-LOUISE FITZPATRICK

OWL BAT BAT OWL

WALKER BOOKS 2017 (BOARD) 32PP £11.99 ISBN 9781406377408

An owl family settles on their perch for the night only to be joined by a family of bats underneath, and it looks like the two groups aren't going to get along – all except the littlest ones, who seem interested and excited about the presence of strangers. This wordless boardbook effortlessly deals with issues of intolerance, difference and friendship using this inspired premise, with plenty of space for parent–child interaction and interpretation. Beautifully illustrated and cleverly put together, this book is a little treasure. (Age 1–3)

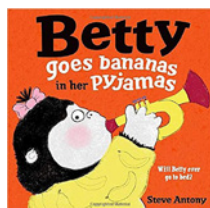


LESLIE PATRICELLI

BIG KID BED

WALKER BOOKS 2019 (BOARD) 26PP £5.99 ISBN 9781406384994

This simple book highlights a milestone in young children's lives. Goodbye, crib. Hello, bed! Baby is happy to move on to the next phase of sleep furniture. There's so much to do on a big, soft bed – lie on it, play on it, bounce on it! At bedtime, daddy tucks baby in, mummy says good night, and there's so much space, and the bed feels so ... different. What now? Trepidation gives way to a good night's sleep in a celebration of a familiar toddler ritual. (Age 1–3)



STEVE ANTONY

BETTY GOES BANANAS IN HER PYJAMAS

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS 2016 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9780192738196

Boisterous Betty is back and this time she's throwing a bedtime tantrum. No matter how much the parental Mr Toucan tries to convince her to cuddle up in bed, stubborn Betty insists on playing with her colourful collection of toys. An ideal read-aloud with melodramatic sound effects as Betty lets loose! Facial expressions are also particularly engaging, from Mr Toucan's frustration to Betty's glee. The bright, bold colours and soft pencil drawings add to the overall fun and accessibility. Guaranteed giggles. (Age 1–4)



JEZ ALBOROUGH

PLAY

WALKER BOOKS 2018 (PBK) 32PP £7.99 ISBN 9781406380071

From the award-winning creator of *Hug*, *Tall* and *Yes* comes another classic picturebook for the very youngest children. Using only a handful of words, Jez Alborough skilfully tells the bedtime tale of Bobo the chimp. The sun is still up and this little chimp wants to play with his jungle friends, but then the sun goes down and he's all alone ... This is a simple story about bravery and home. The perfect bedtime read for every playful little monkey! (Age 1–5)



STEVE ANTONY

UNPLUGGED

HODDER CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2018 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781444934168

Robot Blip enjoys her virtual life, forever plugged in to her computer. But one day, following a power cut, she stumbles outside for the first time and discovers that a whole world of friendship, freedom and adventure awaits her. Antony cleverly uses colour to contrast the dull virtual world with the vibrant reality of nature and play. The great variety in the activities and expressions of the characters adds extra liveliness. This simple story is perfect for families trying to strike the right balance between screen time and bedtime stories! (Age 1–5)

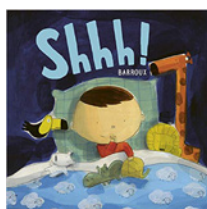


AMY HEST illustrated by HELEN OXENBURY

CHARLEY'S FIRST NIGHT

WALKER BOOKS 2013 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781406345315

This story tells of the beginning of a close bond of friendship between Henry and his new pet dog, Charley. On Charley's first night, Henry carries his new puppy in his old baby blanket all the way to his house. Henry's parents make it very clear where Charley will be sleeping: in the kitchen. But when Charley starts crying in the middle of the night ... Henry simply can't leave his puppy down there by himself! Told with warmth, humour and endearing simplicity, a tale familiar to everyone who has loved a puppy. (Age 2–3)

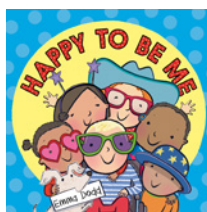


BARROUX

SHHH!

WORDS & PICTURES 2018 (HBK) 32PP £11.99 ISBN 9781910277782

This wonderful bedtime story takes you on a journey through a child's imagination to a series of dreamy landscapes where animals ready themselves for sleep. The simple, lyrical text and charming illustrations will gently lull even the most reluctant sleeper, providing a calming way for parents and carers to say goodnight. Listen to the world gently slowing down, then stopping. With gently humorous text and enchanting imagery that will soothe both little ones and their adults, this bedtime story will quickly become a family favourite. (Age 2–4)

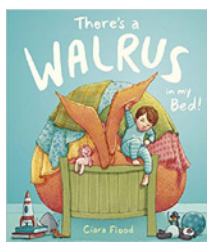


EMMA DODD

HAPPY TO BE ME

ORCHARD BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781408355701

This book celebrating diversity and body positivity is ideal for young children. The message is clear, positive and uplifting. Award-winning picturebook creator Emma Dodd's rhyming text is fun and engaging. The simple and colourful illustrations are warm and reinforce the message that people come in all shapes and sizes and that we have many differences as well as similarities. *Happy to Be Me* is a wonderful resource to build confidence and self-esteem. (Age 2–4)



CIARA FLOOD

THERE'S A WALRUS IN MY BED!

ANDERSEN PRESS 2018 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781783445875

Tonight, for the first time, Flynn is going to sleep in a proper big-boy bed. Flynn has a big problem and it's not that he can't sleep. No, there is a walrus in his new bed! Flynn tries everything he can think of to accommodate his new friend. Eventually, Flynn gets a good night's sleep. Although this story covers territory familiar to many parents of young children, Ciara Flood's humorous interpretation of bedtime protests will no doubt be a new favourite. The lovely illustrations bring the story to life, particularly the cuddly visiting walrus. (Age 2–4)

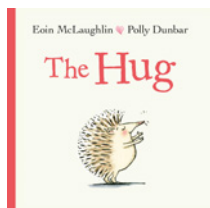


JORY JOHN illustrated by **BENJI DAVIES**

GOODNIGHT ALREADY!

HARPERCOLLINS CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2015 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9780008101350

Meet Bear. He's exhausted. All he wants is to go to sleep. Meet Duck, Bear's persistent next-door neighbour. All he wants is to hang out ... with Bear! And so begins a series of repeated interruptions from Duck to try and engage his friend in some irritating form of play, be it 'talk all night', 'make smoothies' or 'start a band'. With each visit, Bear becomes increasingly aggravated until it all gets too much. A brilliant read-aloud book. Highly recommended for those with siblings! (Age 2-4)

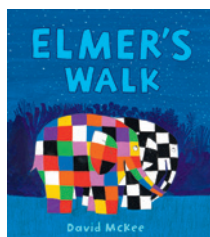


EOIN McLAUGHLIN illustrated by **POLLY DUNBAR**

THE HUG 🍀

FABER & FABER 2019 (HBK) 56PP £6.99 ISBN 9780571350605

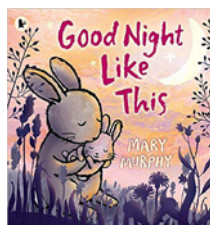
Hedgehog is very sad and lonely. So is Tortoise. Nobody they meet seems to be able to help them. But little do they know that they're slowly working their way towards each other, and to the one thing that'll make them feel better. Polly Dunbar's beautiful illustrations bring Hedgehog, Tortoise and all the animals they encounter on their quests to find someone to hug, from foxes to badgers and rabbits to squirrels, lovingly to life, with a warmth that is genuine and poignant. (Age 2-4)



DAVID McKEE
ELMER'S WALK

ANDERSEN PRESS 2019 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781783447541

This beautifully illustrated book by David McKee heralds the return of family favourite Elmer, the patchwork elephant. This story sees our hero move through the jungle and meet his animal acquaintances, who are all too busy to slow down and stop to experience life around them. Luckily, Elmer isn't the only elephant in the jungle who wants to appreciate what's going on ... A gentle and mindful story, this gorgeous book won't disappoint Elmer fans, while appealing to readers unfamiliar with the character. (Age 2-4)



MARY MURPHY
GOOD NIGHT LIKE THIS 🍀

WALKER BOOKS 2016 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781406365887

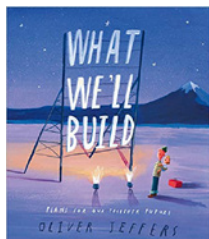
Filled with dreamy, colourful art, this is the perfect soothing bedtime book for little children. The rhythmic text is just right for gently lulling them to sleep while cuddly rabbits, bears, dogs and even a dragonfly each take turns tucking in their little ones. The gentle pacing and sweet pictures will be sure to elicit lots of oohs, aahs and ... zzzzzzs! Featuring novelty elements such as cut-away pages and foil effects, this is a cosy and delightful bedtime book for parents and children to share. This calm and cuddly bedtime read is a must for any bedtime routine. (Age 2-4)



ELLIE SANDALL
EVERYBUNNY DREAM!

HODDER CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781444933871

Drift off to sleep with this calming bedtime tale, perfect for sharing together. 'Cuddle up and snuggle tight. Close your eyes and say goodnight. A cosy group. A peaceful scene ... Everybunny dream!' Follow the little bunnies as they settle down to sleep in this adorable bedtime routine picturebook. Putting their pyjamas on, brushing their tails, washing their paws ... then cuddling up for a bedtime story together. Just right for tired little bunnies everywhere. (Age 2–4)



OLIVER JEFFERS
**WHAT WE'LL BUILD:
PLANS FOR OUR TOGETHER FUTURE** 🌱

HARPERCOLLINS CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2020 (HBK) 48PP £11.99 ISBN 9780008382209

Oliver Jeffers is renowned for his singular illustrations and emotionally satisfying stories. *What We'll Build* is more of the same, in the very best way. An intimate conversation between a father and a daughter unfolds through dreamlike images and a shared vision of the future. Jeffers's latest work is a beautiful piece of art. But more than that, it's a testament to the power of love and creativity, to the necessity of tolerance and empathy. A small story with a heart the size of the world. (Age 2–4, 5–8)



MARTA ALTÉS
FIVE MORE MINUTES

MACMILLAN CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 32PP £12.99 ISBN 9781509866021

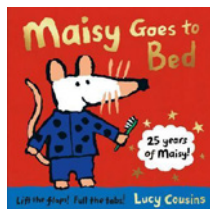
Did you ever notice that parents treat time very differently from kids? How come five minutes in the morning seems to go by quickly when you want to sleep, but it's a very long time if you leave the kids unattended in the kitchen? This book is a joyous romp through a day with dad and the kids, as our child narrator ponders the vagaries and nuances of perceiving time. Parents and children will find humour and laughs on every page – very relatable! (Age 2–5)



JOSEPH COELHO illustrated by FIONA LUMBERS
LUNA LOVES LIBRARY DAY

ANDERSEN PRESS 2018 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781783445950

This is a touching reflection on the power of reading to bring families together. Luna loves going to the library, especially because she gets to spend time with things she loves – books and her dad. Together they explore curiosities, mysteries and knowledge and they even read a very special tale (a book within the book!) that relates to their own life. *Luna Loves Library Day* is an affectionate, loving and gentle story that approaches the subject of separated/divorced parents, brilliantly accompanied by spot-on heartwarming illustrations, ensuring that, no matter what, children will feel loved. (Age 2–5)



LUCY COUSINS **MAISY GOES TO BED**

WALKER BOOKS 2016 (HBK) 16PP £7.99 ISBN 9781406371529

Help Maisy get ready for bed in this charming and original children's book by the multi-award-winning Lucy Cousins that was first published by Walker Books twenty-five years ago. Lift the flaps and pull the tabs: it's time for Maisy to go to bed! First she drinks her bedtime drink, then she has to brush her teeth, wash her hands, put on her pyjamas and read her book. There's lots to do. This reassuringly familiar character will be recognisable to most young children. (Age 2–5)



VIOLA WANG **RABBIT BRIGHT**

HODDER CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2020 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781444948929

When night-time comes around, Rabbit Bright does not want to turn the lights off – the darkness is just too scary. Instead he heads out on an adventure. Through forest, town and space, Rabbit Bright stares into the dark, discovering stars, fireworks, twinkling eyes of various creatures and many other lively sparks: the world isn't so dim after all! A feast for the eyes, with explosive neon-bright shades, this picturebook delivers through its brave and positive protagonist a simple, yet powerful, message: 'there will always be light, for those who seek it'. (Age 2–5)



MO WILLEMS **DON'T LET THE PIGEON STAY UP LATE!**

WALKER BOOKS 2007 (PBK) 40PP £6.99 ISBN 9781406308129

In this hilarious, interactive bedtime read, it's getting late and the bus driver is going to brush his teeth and get ready for bed. Will you do him a favour while he is gone? Don't let the pigeon stay up late! But the pigeon is wide awake: he isn't even tired – in fact he's in the mood for a hot-dog party! The increasingly desperate reasons the pigeon gives for staying up late will really resonate with young (and older) children. A hilarious read-aloud story for bedtime, featuring everyone's favourite pesky, pestering pigeon! (Age 2–5)



KATIE BLACKBURN illustrated by RICHARD SMYTHE **DOZY BEAR AND THE SECRET OF SLEEP**

FABER & FABER 2016 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9780571330195

Through bold use of sunset colours, chunky collage and soothingly repetitious text, Dozy Bear learns that, even though there is no secret to sleep, there are some helpful tricks. Readers will learn with the help of Mama, Papa and Nana Bear to wiggle and settle, to breathe deeply and to listen to the 'hush' of the night. If, like Dozy Bear, your small people want to sleep but don't know how, this winsome book will prove very helpful. (Age 2–6)



MICHAEL ROSEN illustrated by **CHRIS RIDDELL**
A GREAT BIG CUDDLE:
POEMS FOR THE VERY YOUNG

WALKER BOOKS 2017 (PBK) 80PP £10.99 ISBN 9781406373462

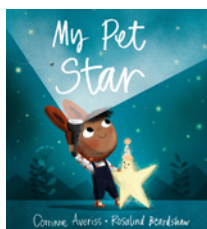
The poems in *A Great Big Cuddle* fizz off the page with sound and rhythm, energy and laughter, as Rosen captures in the most remarkable way what it means to be very, very young. A child's world with all its details and feelings – toys and games, animals and made-up creatures, likes and dislikes – is vividly conjured up in the most memorable, playful language, and Chris Riddell has produced some extraordinary pictures. It's a book that will be enjoyed by the oldest grown-up and the youngest child – and a future classic. (Age 2–7)



OLIVER JEFFERS and **SAM WINSTON**
A CHILD OF BOOKS

WALKER BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 40PP £7.99 ISBN 9781406386042

A coming together of two very different styles, this picturebook beautifully combines Jeffers's sweeping watercolours and naïve pencil-drawn characters with Winston's typographic and collaged landscapes. The narrative follows a young girl who guides a boy and the reader away from the grey everyday and into a world of story. Words become mountains, oceans, paths and caves, and colour slowly creeps into the scenery and the girl's figure as the book progresses. A beautiful gift for a book lover of any age. A gorgeous homage to the power of the written word. (Age 3+)



CORRINNE AVERISS illustrated by **ROSALIND BEARDSHAW**
MY PET STAR

ORCHARD BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781408353660

When a little girl finds a fallen star, she takes care of it as if it were a lost pet. The more she cares for the star, the brighter it glows, until the day it's time for them to let go. A charming tale about friendship, *My Pet Star* shows the importance of kindness and compassion, and how even the most ephemeral relationships can have a lasting effect. Gorgeous illustrations and a rhyming text help to make *My Pet Star* a perfect story for bedtime. (Age 3–5)



ELLA BAILEY
ONE DAY ON OUR BLUE PLANET...
IN THE SAVANNAH

FLYING EYE BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781909263567

You'll follow a day in the life of a sweet lion cub as he explores his world. At every turn of the page, the reader is introduced to a variety of savannah animals and lush vegetation that is a veritable feast for the eyes. Bailey's text is simple and filled with snippets of facts and curiosities and it's well complemented by her beautiful illustrations in warm tones. The endpapers alone are such a treat! It's a real delight for curious little explorers. (Age 3–5)

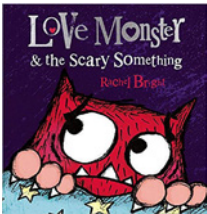


BRIDGET BREATHNACH maisithe ag **STEVE SIMPSON**

LÚLÚ AGUS AN OÍCHE GHLÓRACH 🌱

FUTA FATA 2012 (BOG) 24LCH €7.95 ISBN 9781906907754

Tá sé ag éirí dorcha agus ba chóir do Lúlú a bheith ina codladh. Tá na moncaithe beaga eile ina gcnap codlata ag srannadh. Ach tá cúpla fuaim ag cur isteach ar Lúlú. Ní féidir léi néal codlata a fháil. Éist leis na fuaimeanna thart timpeall ar Lúlú nuair a théann sí féin agus ulcabhán ar thuras fud fad an dufair. Rachaidh an scéal seo i bhfeidhm ar do chluasa agus is féidir é a úsáid má tá aon deacracht ag an bpáiste titim a chodladh. (Aois 3–5)

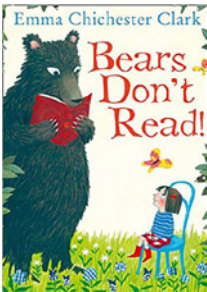


RACHEL BRIGHT

LOVE MONSTER & THE SCARY SOMETHING

HARPERCOLLINS CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2015 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9780007540327

It's way past bedtime o'clock in Cutesville and Love Monster is the only one who's wide awake ... Or is he? As the sounds of the night make his imagination run wild, will he be brave enough to stare his fears straight in the googly eye? A heart-poppingly empowering, edge-of-the-bed story about how, sometimes, it's only when we face our fears that we find out there was nothing to be scared of after all. A sweetly inspiring story aimed at encouraging little readers to take positive action. (Age 3–5)

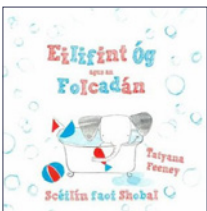


EMMA CHICHESTER CLARK

BEARS DON'T READ!

HARPERCOLLINS CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2014 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9780007425198

George the bear is tired of doing the same old bear things. He's looking for excitement. So when he finds a book in the woods he decides to find its owner and learn to read! Ignoring his family's warning of the dangers of town, George boldly ventures forth and, despite a somewhat mixed reception, manages to make new friends and fulfil his dreams. This amusing and colourful tale reveals the wonders that can lie beyond the familiar, if you're brave enough to look! An encouraging story for those starting on their own reading journeys. (Age 3–5)



TATYANA FEENEY

EILIFINT ÓG AGUS AN FOLCADÁN 🌱

AN GÚM 2015 (BOG) 26LCH €5.00 ISBN 9781857919011

Tá spéis ag Eilifint Óg léim sna locháin uisce. Is breá leis a bheith ag ól trína shoipín dearg ACH níl sé sásta in aon chor cos a leagadh isteach san fholcadán lán le huisce! Déanann Mamáí sáriarrachtaí é a mhealladh ach ní éiríonn le haon cheann díobh. Ansin smaoiníonn Mamáí ar chleas amháin eile! Nuair a fheiceann Eilifint Óg Daidí istigh ina fholcadán tagann fonn air dul isteach ann lena bhréagáin. Is scéal greannmhar é seo chun an spraoi a bhaineann le ham folcadáin a phlé. (Aois 3–5)



MITCH FROST illustrated by **DARON PARTON**
THE ULTIMATE SURVIVAL GUIDE TO MONSTERS UNDER THE BED

BUSTER BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781780556475

We all know the fear of monsters under the bed at night. The thought of them lurking, waiting until you fall asleep so they can leap out and ... Well, fear no more! Years of 'scientific research' has come up with this easy-to-follow, hilarious step-by-step guide that will help banish those monsters for good. With its brightly coloured illustrations and ridiculous-looking monsters, this picturebook will reassure, entertain and amuse children and parents alike, and help with a very common childhood worry. You can sleep peacefully now. (Age 3–5)



PIPPA GOODHART illustrated by **REBECCA CRANE**
MY VERY OWN SPACE

FLYING EYE BOOKS 2017 (HBK) 32PP £11.99 ISBN 9781911171126

It can be hard to find room for yourself in a busy, crowded home, so little rabbit decides to mark out a space that's just for one. But being on your own all the time isn't that fun ... This beautifully illustrated book is perfect for children testing the boundaries of personal space and social interaction, with a great message about when to let people in and when it's OK to have your own space. (Age 3–5)



ELAINE HARRIS maisithe ag **EMILY VEALE**
 aistrithe ag **CLAIRE M. DUNNE**
ÉIST LEIS AN SPÉIR:

SUAIMHNEAS FAOI THREOIR DO PHÁISTÍ 🌱

THE YOGA SHED 2019 (CRUA) 46LCH €12.00 ISBN 9781999963583

Tugann an scéilín seo an léitheoir nó an t-éisteoir ar thuras suaimhneach. Is féidir le duine fásta an-leas a bhaint as an machnamh treoiraithe seo le páistí óga chun spás ciúin a chruthú agus iad féin a shuaimhniú roimh dhul a chodladh. Tugann an leabhar cúpla gníomhaíocht duit chun díriú ar d'análú agus chun do ghéaga a shíneadh. Tríd an bhfriotail séimh binn, agus an aird a thugtar ar bhaill den chorp, beidh tú ar do sháimhín só gan mhoill. (Aois 3–5)



LOUISE GREIG illustrated by **ASHLING LINDSAY**
BETWEEN TICK AND TOCK 🌱

EGMONT BOOKS 2018 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781405286596

A gentle story highlighting how things can happen in the second between the tick and tock when the clock is paused and everything stands still. Follow Liesel's journey through the hectic city full of distracted people as she carries out random acts of kindness and shows consideration for others. The warm, atmospheric illustrations add to the story as Liesel returns colour, life and happiness to the city. A thoughtful tale that acts as a reminder to readers to slow down and be more aware. (Age 3–5)



EMILY HAWORTH-BOOTH **THE KING WHO BANNED THE DARK**

PAVILION CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2018 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781843653974

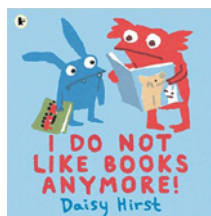
There was a prince who was afraid of the dark, and when he becomes king, he decides to do something. He bans the dark, spreading rumours about its evils and enforcing 'anti-dark' laws. Everyone is happy with the constant light at first. Then his people can't sleep, the days seem to go on forever and no one can see the celebration fireworks! Will the king face his fears and turn off the lights? A timeless tale of courage, consequences and unexpected wonder with quirky, lively illustrations. An illuminating tale of power, rebellion, darkness and light. (Age 3–5)



AMY HEST illustrated by JENNI DESMOND **ON THE NIGHT OF THE SHOOTING STAR**

WALKER BOOKS 2018 (PBK) 32PP £7.99 ISBN 9781406379372

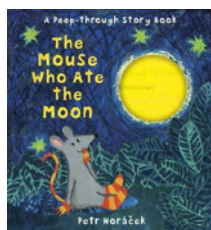
Bunny lives on one side of the fence in a small blue house. Dog lives on the other side of the fence in a small red house. Although they are neighbours, they are not friends. But what happens on a night when neither can sleep? This is a gentle story of a developing friendship which any shy child can appreciate. Jenni Desmond's lovely watercolour illustrations bring life to the characters and create the beautiful world of Dog and Bunny through all four seasons. (Age 3–5)



DAISY HIRST **I DO NOT LIKE BOOKS ANYMORE!**

WALKER BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 40PP £7.99 ISBN 9781406382914

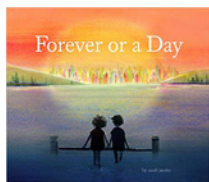
Natalie and Alphonse are back in Daisy Hirst's new picturebook, and this time Natalie is struggling with her reading. Finding that the words in her storybooks look scrambled and wrong on the page, Natalie declares that she does not like books any more. The struggles of learning to read and wanting proper stories are captured very well in this book, and Hirst's charming, naïve style is perfectly suited to the subject matter. An excellent book for struggling readers and picturebook lovers alike. (Age 3–5)



PETR HORÁČEK **THE MOUSE WHO ATE THE MOON**

WALKER BOOKS 2015 (HBK) 32PP £9.99 ISBN 9781406360677

From an award-winning picturebook maker comes a beautiful peep-through story about a mouse, the moon and the importance of friendship. Little Mouse loves the moon so much that she wants a piece of it for herself. Seeing something yellow, she mistakes it for the moon and nibbles away at it. Afterwards she worries that the moon will not be round any more, but her friends Rabbit and Mole try to reassure her. Simple text, bright, colourful illustrations and peep-through stylised pages make this an ideal gift for a young child. (Age 3–5)



SARAH JACOBY
FOREVER OR A DAY

CHRONICLE BOOKS 2018 (HBK) 40PP €12.99 ISBN 9781452164632

This gorgeously illustrated, poetic picturebook deals with the concept of time through the eyes of a child. What is it? Why can't you hold on to it? Where does it go to? Jacoby's sensitive, atmospheric illustrations draw you in, exploring these questions against a world of constantly changing beauty: vast night skies peppered with stars, sunsets, dense forests, smoky cities, rushing crowds and crowded train journeys. Is this what forever feels like? This stunning book, full of grace and originality, makes for a great one-on-one bedtime read. (Age 3–5)

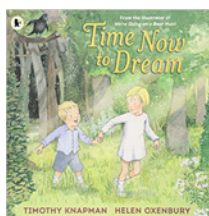


OLIVER JEFFERS aistrithe ag MÁIRE ZEPF

ANSEO ATÁ MUID:
NOTÁÍ FAOI CHÓNAÍ AR AN DOMHAN 🌍

FUTA FATA 2018 (CRUA) 36LCH €16.95 ISBN 9781910945391

Is scéal deas é seo chun comhrá a thosú ar an domhan mór lasmuigh den seomra codlata. Aistriúchán atá ann ar *Here We Are: Notes for Living on Planet Earth*. Déanann an tuismitheoir cur síos ar na féidearthachtaí atá ann don pháiste beag agus é ag fás aníos. Cuireann na léaráidí beoga lándaite a leathnaíonn amach ar gach leathanach leis an mbéim dhóchasach. Tá léargas ann ar an éagsúlacht shaibhir atá sa domhan agus tugann an tuismitheoir comhairle an-luachmhar don pháiste óg: ‘... bí cineálta. Tá go leor ann do gach duine’. (Aois 3–5)



TIMOTHY KNAPMAN illustrated by HELEN OXENBURY
TIME NOW TO DREAM

WALKER BOOKS 2018 (PBK) 40PP €7.99 ISBN 9781406373370

This lyrical tale finds Jack and his sister, Alice, searching for something hidden in the forest. Perfectly paced, including a beautiful variation of ‘Hush Little Baby’, this story feels completely timeless. Helen Oxenbury has created a truly immersive experience with her lush, dreamlike watercolour illustrations. It is impossible to resist being drawn into her world. With its reassuring refrain of ‘everything is going to be alright’ punctuating almost every page, this future classic is note-perfect for sending little ones happily off to sleep. (Age 3–5)

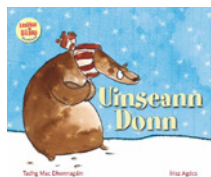


TADHG Mac DHONNAGÁIN maisithe ag
CHRISTINA O'DONOVAN, BRIAN FITZGERALD,
TARSILA KRÜSE agus JENNIFER FARLEY

BLIAIN NA nAMHRÁN 🌳

FUTA FATA 2016 (CRUA) 51LCH €16.95 ISBN 9781910945216

Is cuma má tá tú ag cur síolta ag tús an earraigh nó ag socrú le filleadh ar scoil i mí Mheán Fómhair, tá amhrán álainn sa chnuasach seo duit. Fiche amhrán atá ann faoi na ceithre shéasúr agus is féidir an leabhar a léamh ó cheann ceann na bliana. Tá dlúthdhiosca ag dul leis an leabhar agus is féidir aon cheann de na hamhráin a chur ar siúl agus tú ag dul a luí. Cuireann an stíl éagsúil mhaisitheoireachta do gach séasúr go mór leis an rithim bhliantúil. (Aois 3–5)

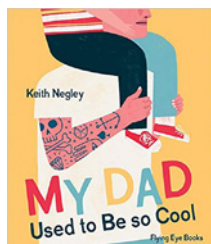


TADHG Mac DHONNAGÁIN maisithe ag ÍRISZ AGÓCS

UINSEANN DONN

FUTA FATA 2013 (CRUA) 24LCH €9.95 ISBN 9781906907792

An mbíonn tusa cantalach nuair nach bhfaigheann tú codladh ceart? An gcuireann torainn bheaga isteach ort san oíche? Beidh trua agat d'Uinseann Donn, béar cantalach nach féidir leis codladh na hoíche a fháil. Impíonn sé ar na héiníní, na coiníní, agus na beacha stadadh den ghleo a dhéanamh. Is ansin a chloiseann sé torann eile. Ní fada go gcuireann Uinseann Donn aithne ar thorc beag. Leanann an scéal an cairdeas a fhásann idir an bheirt agus tar éis tamaill, níl Uinseann Donn chomh crosta céanna. (Aois 3–5)



KEITH NEGLEY

MY DAD USED TO BE SO COOL

FLYING EYE BOOKS (HBK) 44PP £11.99 ISBN 9781909263949

This story follows a young son's discovery that his dad used to be a rock star. He finds it hard to believe his dad could ever have been cool. He wonders what little bump along the way made him give it all up ... Negley uses a limited bold colour palette with little shading to create a very graphic effect. The distinct style uses unique proportions and geometric shaping to create a modern look. This is a great book for boys and especially for fatherly bonding. Look out for his other title, *Tough Guys Have Feelings Too*. (Age 3–5)



MUIREANN Ní CHÍOBHÁIN maisithe ag PADDY DONNELLY

SCÚNC AGUS SMÚIRÍN

FUTA FATA 2019 (CRUA) 32LCH €10.95 ISBN 9781910945476

Más breá leatsa do theidí beag a thabhairt leat a luí tuigfidh tú an riocht ina bhfuil Scúnc. Imíonn a theidí Smúirín ar strae! Níos measa fós, tar éis seal a chaitheamh sa mheaisín níocháin, athraíonn an boladh. Caithfidh sé teacht ar fhoinsé an bholaigh speisialta! Is scéal céadfaíoch é seo a rachaidh i bhfeidhm ar do shrón. Is scéal álainn é chun plé a dhéanamh ar an gcompond a thugann an teidí is fearr linn dúinn, chomh maith leis an gcaidreamh grámhar idir tuismitheoir agus páiste. (Aois 3–5)

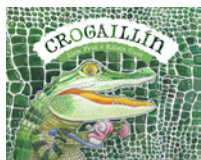


ÁINE Ní GHLINN maisithe ag LAURA JANE PHELAN

CINNÍN ÓIR AGUS NA TRÍ BHÉAR

AN GÚM 2017 (CRUA) 32LCH €8.50 ISBN 9781857919356

Is seanscéal é seo a mbeidh cur amach ag go leor tuismitheoirí/caomhnóirí air. Bainfidh tú sult as an seanscéal a roinnt leis an nglúin óg. Athinsint atá ann ar scéal na trí bhéar. Tá sé scríofa i bhfoirm rann le rithim agus fuaim an-taitneamhach a chuirfidh an páiste faoi dhraíocht. I measc na ngnéithe a tharraingeodh páistí isteach, tá na dathanna tarraingteacha agus na mothúcháin atá léirithe go soiléir ar éadan Chinnín Óir. Seo leabhar a léifeá arís agus arís eile. (Aois 3–5)

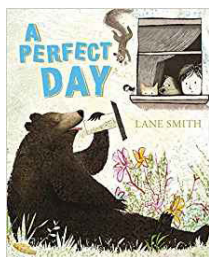


LIAM PRÚT maisithe ag RÓISÍN CURÉ

CROGAILLÍN

AN GÚM 2014 (CRUA) 24LCH €6.50 ISBN 9781857918366

Roimh dhul a chodladh is gá na fiacra a scuabadh agus a scuabadh go maith. Tá an jab céanna le déanamh ag Crogaillín. Cuireann Mamaí i gcuimhne dó gach aon fhiacail a scuabadh go cúramach. Ach dar leis gur obair chrua fhadálach í go háirithe agus fiacra nua ag fás ina bhéal. Caithfidh sé foghlaim conas a fhiacra a scuabadh i gceart agus caithfidh sé an bia ceart a ithe le cabhrú lena chuid fiacra fás agus a bheith sláintiúil. (Aois 3–5)

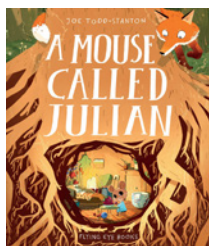


LANE SMITH

A PERFECT DAY

TWO HOOTS 2017 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781509840564

What would your perfect day be like? That's the question sure to come up after reading this beautifully designed book by veteran American illustrator Lane Smith. Four small animals each seem to be enjoying their perfect summer day until an oversized visitor makes it truly a day to remember. The classy illustration, a mix of ink, paint and digital composition, is typically original work from Smith. The textured surfaces cleverly suggest fur and movement. Fantastic art! The bear is particularly priceless. (Age 3–5)



JOE TODD-STANTON

A MOUSE CALLED JULIAN

FLYING EYE BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 40PP £11.99 ISBN 9781912497065

This absolutely adorable book tells the story of friendship between two unlikely and funny characters. Julian, a mouse, lives alone and likes it. Then one day, Fox gets his head stuck in Julian's front door. Since they can't get Fox loose, mouse and fox share a meal and end up enjoying each other's company. They are at first wary, but this bit of bonding over dinner benefits them both later in unexpected ways. Executed in a rich autumnal palette, the accomplished illustrations are as warm as the message. (Age 3–5)



ED VERE

HOW TO BE A LION

PUFFIN 2018 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9780141376363

Leonard is aware that everyone expects lions to be fierce, but he is not. He likes words, he likes to write poems and, to the horror of the 'fierce' lions, he befriends a duck called Marianne rather than chomping her up! Several issues are dealt with in this book, including the power of friendship and the need for us all to be ourselves regardless of what others think. A warm and reassuring story, beautifully and appropriately illustrated in a palette of burnt oranges and yellows. (Age 3–5)



ED VERE **MAX AT NIGHT**

PUFFIN 2015 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9780723299158

Max is a mighty kitten but tonight he is very sleepy. It's way past Max's bedtime. Max has drunk his milk. Max has brushed his teeth. Max has cleaned behind his ears. Now Max just needs to say goodnight ... Max is tired and all ready for bed, but when he can't find the moon to say goodnight to, he sets out to find it. But that's not as easy as Max had hoped ... Witty and heartwarming, this stylish and beautifully illustrated book is the perfect bedtime read. (Age 3–5)



JEANNE WILLIS illustrated by BRIONY MAY SMITH **STARDUST**

NOSY CROW 2018 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781788000697

A little girl dreams of being a star but she feels her sister will always outshine her. Then grandad explains that the world began with the first star and so we are all made of stardust. His depiction of the beginning of creation in all its mystery is strikingly captured in a series of double-page spreads, contrasting delightfully with grounded images of the family's activities. And little sister realises that she too can and does shine in her own particular way. A warm-hearted story with a reminder that our grandparents are a great source of comfort in times of woe. (Age 3–5)



PATRICIA HEGARTY illustrated by BRITTA TECKENTRUP **MOON**

LITTLE TIGER PRESS 2018 (PBK) 32PP £7.99 ISBN 9781848698673

This is an elaborate book with peek-through holes that show the moon's different phases with each turn of the page. Over deserts and forests, Arctic tundra and tropical beaches, the moon shines down on creatures around the world. Children will love discovering how it changes from day to day as the lunar cycle is shown through clever peek-through holes, each revealing the moon in a different size and shape. It's the perfect light non-fiction book for young stargazers – and an ideal bedtime book, ending with a giant moon hovering over a sleepy town. (Age 3–6)



ANNA MILBOURNE illustrated by DANIEL RIELEY **I'M NOT (VERY) AFRAID OF THE DARK**

USBORNE PUBLISHING 2019 (HBK) 24PP £12.99 ISBN 9781474940726

A comforting companion to any young reader who shares the protagonist's fear of the dark. When the lights go out, he gets a funny feeling in his tummy, paralysed with fear about the freaky shapes he can see. However, when he realises that the darkness isn't as scary as it seems, and that without it the stars wouldn't shine, the dark doesn't seem so bad after all. With astonishing illustrations and perfectly placed cut-out details, this is the perfect bedtime read! (Age 3–6)



BLAKE NUTO illustrated by CHARLOTTE AGER
CHILD OF GALAXIES

FLYING EYE BOOKS 2020 (HBK) 48PP £11.99 ISBN 9781912497423

This book is an ode to the magic and mystery of being and the infinite possibilities of life. With rousing affirmations, readers are encouraged to appreciate the moment, embrace everyday adventure and rest assured that doubts and fears will be alleviated with the grand passing of time. Engaging rhyming text begs to be read aloud and shared, prompting discussion around life's big questions. Ager's bold full-colour scenes mix the cosmic and everyday, making the entire universe seem homely, intimate and wonder filled. Philosophical and poetic, comforting and empowering – utterly gorgeous. (Age 3–6)



MAC BARNETT illustrated by ISABELLE ARSENAULT
JUST BECAUSE

WALKER BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 40PP £12.99 ISBN 9781406388763

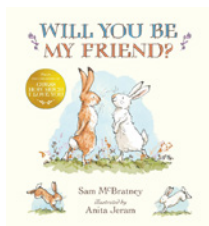
It might be time for bed, but one child is too full of questions about the world to go to sleep just yet. Little ones and their parents or guardians will be charmed and delighted as a patient father offers up increasingly creative responses to his child's night-time wonderings. Any child who has ever asked Why? – and any adult who has attempted an explanation – will recognise themselves in this sweet storybook for dreamers who are looking for answers beyond 'Just because'. Celebrating creativity and the general oddness of the world, this is a book to cherish. (Age 3–7)



JESSICA HISCHE
TOMORROW I'LL BE BRAVE

TRIGGER PUBLISHING 2020 (PBK) 40PP £6.99 ISBN 9781789561739

Hische's vibrant lettering and cheerful rhymes are not only positive affirmations for young readers: they are also a reminder of how tiny acts of play, kindness and curiosity can build courage. Stylish giant fonts for each adventurous virtue are paired with simple art to show the everyday activities that have opportunities for strength and creativity, celebrating the potential in everyone, while acknowledging that if you haven't found a way to be brave today, there is always tomorrow. (Age 3–7)



SAM McBRATNEY illustrated by ANITA JERAM
WILL YOU BE MY FRIEND? 🐇

WALKER BOOKS 2020 (HBK) 32PP £12.99 ISBN 9781406351606

This beautiful picturebook says so much with so few words. Little Nutbrown Hare, eager to play and have fun, comes across little Cloudy Mountain Hare one day. He bravely asks her if she would like to be his friend and she happily agrees. This book very quickly portrays the excitement and delight of going out into the world and making new friends. It is a heartwarming tale about the importance of play and friendship. Anita Jeram's buoyant illustrations are endearingly Beatrix Potter-esque. (Age 3–7)



EINO McLAUGHLIN illustrated by ROBERT STARLING
THIS BOOK IS NOT A BEDTIME STORY! 🌟

PAVILION CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2020 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781843654384

Bedtime with children can be a battlefield, frustrating for the big people and sometimes frightening for the small ones. *This Book Is Not a Bedtime Story!* turns bedtime on its head, with monsters that are not really strange or scary but actually silly and even sleepy, despite their best efforts to be bad! Striking artwork, double-page colour spreads and simple rhymes are great fun to read together. A lovely book for bedtime or any time – have a giggle, make friends and settle down to snooze. (Age 3–7)



ISABEL MINHÓS MARTINS illustrated by YARA KONO
ABZZZ ... A BEDTIME ALPHABET

THAMES & HUDSON 2016 (HBK) 28PP £8.95 ISBN 9780500650776

As is to be expected from the brilliant Minhós Martins, this book is genius. From 'A is for awake' to 'ZZZZZZZ' this sound means that the book has been turned off, this unusual alphabet book is a light-footed introduction to bedtime relaxation and mindfulness. Suffused with humour and helped along by Kono's bright, bold illustrations, ABZZZ offers a fantastic moment of intimacy and fun between reader and young listener and is a wonderful way to end a busy day. Very highly recommended. (Age 3–7)



JON KLASSEN
WE FOUND A HAT

WALKER BOOKS 2017 (PBK) 56PP £6.99 ISBN 9781406373820

Jon Klassen's quietly epic hat trilogy concludes with this title in poignant fashion. Two tortoises find one very fine hat, but only one turtle may wear it. It is hard: the hat looks good on both of them. This seemingly simple yet understandably serious drama is played out in three acts, including a sleepless night. Clearly, a great friendship is at stake and the full weight of one tortoise's decision can be felt. Exquisitely atmospheric landscapes evoke hilarity and sympathy, and the shifting eyes tell the tale full of deadpan humour and charm. (Age 3–7)



EMMA YARLETT
ORION AND THE DARK

TEMPLAR BOOKS 2014 (PBK) 40PP £7.99 ISBN 9781783700295

Orion is really scared of the dark, so imagine his surprise when the dark visits him. A creature of midnight skies and shooting stars, Dark is unexpectedly kind and friendly. Little by little, Dark demystifies Orion's fears of shadowy corners, strange sounds and even the vast night sky. By recognising and understanding his fears, Orion no longer feels afraid. Packed with delightful detail, this book is equal parts practical and magical. A great reassurance for tiny readers who worry about all things night-time. (Age 3–7)



JULIA DONALDSON aistrithe ag **TADHG Mac DHONNAGÁIN**
maisithe ag **AXEL SCHEFFLER**

AN GARBHÁN ÓG 🌿

FUTA FATA 2020 (CRUA) 26LCH €9.95 ISBN 9781910945650

Tá seanaithne ag léitheoirí óga na Gaeilge ar an nGarbhán agus is iontach an scéal leantach é *An Garbhán Óg* a insíonn scéal eachtraíochta iníon an Gharbháin agus í ag spaisteoireacht léi tríd an gcoill san oíche, nuair ba cheart di a bheith ina codladh! Ar an mbealach buaileann sí le carachtair aithnidiúla. Tá teachtaireacht anseo nach mar a shíltear i gcónaí agus nach foláir don té nach bhfuil láidir a bheith glic. Bua an leagain seo is ea foclaíocht dhraíochtúil tharraingteach Mhic Dhonnagáin. (Aois 3–8)



SARAH WEBB illustrated by **STEVE MCCARTHY**

A SAILOR WENT TO SEA, SEA, SEA: FAVOURITE RHYMES FROM A IRISH CHILDHOOD 🌿

THE O'BRIEN PRESS 2017 (HBK) 64PP €16.99 ISBN 9781847177940

This incredible collection is the perfect companion to the 2014 book *Sally Go Round the Stars*. Even more traditional childhood rhymes, songs and poems are joined by the likes of Yeats, Joyce and even some contemporary children's authors to make a truly memorable, must-have book. The illustrations are bright and lively, setting the mood on each page. Here you will find 'The Owl and the Pussy-Cat', 'Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear' and, yes, 'The Lake Isle of Innisfree'. Perfect to read and to share. (Age 3–10)



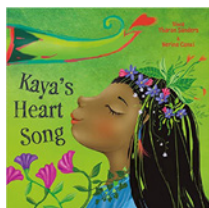
BEX SHERIDAN

GO TO SLEEP, HOGLET!

THE ADVENTURES OF AN IRISH HEDGEHOG 🌿

THE O'BRIEN PRESS 2020 (HBK) 32PP €12.99 ISBN 9781788491433

Not wanting to miss out on seeing his first Christmas, Little Hoglet refuses to take part in the 'Big Winter Sleep' with the rest of his hedgehog family and instead sets out on an epic adventure around the 'Royal County' before realising the true meaning of Christmas. Join author–illustrator Bex Sheridan and a host of native furry characters in this festive tale and ode to her home county of Meath, featuring some of our most famous landmarks, including Trim Castle, The Hill of Tara and Newgrange. (Age 4–6)



DIWA THARAN SANDERS illustrated by **NERINA CANZI**
KAYA'S HEART SONG

LANTANA PUBLISHING 2019 (PBK) 32PP £7.99 ISBN 9781911373070

When young Kaya concentrates on uncurling the vines trapped around an old elephant carousel in the jungle, she finally hears the heart song that her mother assured her would come. The soft, rhythmic beat of Kaya's song has a magical effect – not only on the vibrant elephants that move in tune with her, but on Kaya's connection to the rhythm of her own body and mind. An exotic, richly illustrated book perfect for helping little people with busy lives understand the importance of mindfulness. (Age 4–6)

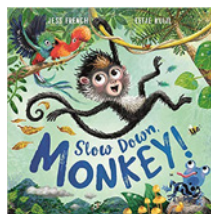


CLARE HELEN WELSH illustrated by **ASHLING LINDSAY**

THE TIDE 🌊

LITTLE TIGER PRESS 2019 (HBK) 32PP £11.99 ISBN 9781788810852

Warmly illustrated, this book charts a busy day at the beach for a little girl and her grandad while her interior monologue mulls over her discussions with her mum about her grandad's forgetfulness. The metaphor of the tide to explain the effect dementia has on people's memories is beautiful. Images and text wash in and out of the child's present experience and recent memories, and beautiful colours and shapes combine with an accessible and unsentimental text to create a cleverly comforting, coherent reflection on living and loving with dementia. (Age 4–7)



JESS FRENCH illustrated by **EEFJE KUIJL**

SLOW DOWN, MONKEY!

BUSTER BOOKS 2020 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781780556116

Told in rhyming text, this lushly illustrated story is about a monkey preparing for a party. While Monkey rushes about, Sloth, for whom 'no movement is accidental', just chills. Sloth teaches Monkey to be mindful and to look, breathe, listen and feel. Once he's slowed down, Monkey relaxes and his party is successful. The final pages are dedicated to the endangered animals that appear throughout the story as well as Sloth's 'Slow Down Tips', where you can review the mindfulness techniques with your child. (Age 4–8)



CHITRA SOUNDAR illustrated by **POONAM MISTRY**

YOU'RE SAFE WITH ME

LANTANA PUBLISHING 2018 (HBK) 32PP £11.99 ISBN 9781911373292

You're Safe with Me is a gentle, reassuring book for small people who might be afraid of the dark. We are brought to the forest and there we see a kindly elephant soothe the worries of the baby animals. The wind, the thunder and the lightning are explained away through story, and the babies are finally able to settle down for the night. The illustrations are a triumph. With a dark and opulent palette, they give an air of great mystery to this sumptuous book. (Age 4–8)



THE FAN BROTHERS **OCEAN MEETS SKY**

FRANCIS LINCOLN CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 48PP £7.99 ISBN 9781786035622

Finn builds a boat to go and explore the magical places his late grandfather had described. He takes the reader with him on a journey through dreams, memories and imagination. The text is quite short and very poetic. The illustrations truly are stunning; they live up to the magic evoked. Each page will fill your eyes with wonder and suggest many more questions to explore. Children and adults alike are sure to be charmed. (Age 4–8)



THE FAN BROTHERS **THE NIGHT GARDENER**

FRANCES LINCOLN CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2018 (PBK) 48PP £7.99 ISBN 9781786030412

In this beautiful and atmospheric tale about finding your path, the Fan Brothers have created something timeless. When a mysterious night-time gardener begins leaving animal-themed topiary all over town, a young orphaned boy finds a friend, a community and a vocation. Pages move from gentle sepia tones to rich colour-drenched spreads as gardening fever overtakes the village. The illustrations are intricate and nostalgic. With themes of resilience and growth, the healing process and movement from isolation to diverse community, this book is an absolute delight. (Age 4–8)



JULIAN GOUGH illustrated by JIM FIELD **RABBIT & BEAR: A BITE IN THE NIGHT**

HODDER CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 112PP £9.99 ISBN 9781444938180

This is the sort of story that makes you want to send your children to bed early, so you can read it to them! Fewer forest-dwelling duos delight more than Rabbit and Bear, and our fourth visit to their valley is no exception. As Rabbit frets over trees 'flying south for winter', and Bear assures him trees can't fly, a new creature appears, and he's trying to change everything. Their furry community's journey toward a solution puts teamwork at the heart of this beautifully illustrated tale, but what makes it beat is the joy of friendship. (Age 5–7)



SEAN TAYLOR and ALEX MORSS illustrated by CINYEE CHIU **WINTER SLEEP: A HIBERNATION STORY**

WORDS & PICTURES 2019 (HBK) 32PP £12.99 ISBN 9780711242838

A young boy spends summer taking nature walks with his grandmother. As they explore, she teaches him about the life all around them. When the boy returns in winter the ground is hard, the air is quiet and the trees are bare. During this second trip, the boy learns that the animals are hibernating – passing the winter in a secret and hidden state. A beautiful and educational book that captures what can be learned when we spend time curiously exploring and observing our natural world. (Age 5–7)



SYLVIA BISHOP illustrated by PADDY DONNELLY **A SEA OF STORIES**

STRIPES 2019 (HBK) 96PP £7.99 ISBN 9781788950817

Our heroine, Roo, hears stories from her grandpa about all the bits and bobs that fill his house by the sea. He tells her stories of his childhood, of the sea and of her grandmother, but he can no longer reach the cove where so many of these memories were made. Can Roo find a way to help her grandpa? The enchanting illustrations do full justice to this lovely tale, told with sweetness and gentle humour. An inspiring tale about the importance of sharing stories, this full-colour chapter book is one to treasure. (Age 5–8)

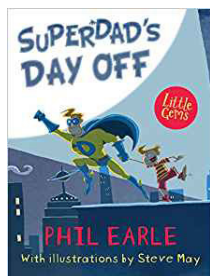


EOIN COLFER illustrated by **KATY HALFORD**

MARIELLA QUEEN OF THE SKIES

BARRINGTON STOKES 2018 (PBK) 96PP £6.99 ISBN 9781781127704

'Bedtime. No more!' Such is inventor Mariella's war cry in Eoin Colfer's contribution to the brilliant dyslexia-friendly Little Gems collection. As all creatives know, sleep often gets in the way of good inventing. So Mariella has decided to put an end to it. Can she do it? Mariella is full of confidence and bright ideas and never gives up when her hypotheses are invalidated. Whimsical, empowering and packed with Colfer's trademark humour, Mariella's scientific adventure is brilliantly brought to life by Halford's eye for colour and pattern. (Age 5–8)



PHIL EARLE illustrated by **STEVE MAY**

SUPERDAD'S DAY OFF

BARRINGTON STOKES 2017 (PBK) 94PP £6.99 ISBN 9781781126844

Stanley's dad is a superhero, the greatest on the planet. But saving the world every day is so tiring he can hardly keep his eyes open! On his day off they head to the park, where Stanley is determined to let his dad rest. While his dad snoozes Stanley takes over, bravely battling with panthers, monster trucks and flooded houses, emerging as a hero in his own right. This book, from dyslexia-friendly publisher Barrington Stoke, is packed with action and the illustrations are gorgeous – quirky, funny, dynamic and full of character. A wonderful, enjoyable romp. (Age 5–8)



CORNELIA FUNKE illustrated by **MÓNICA ARMIÑO**

THE MOONSHINE DRAGON

BARRINGTON STOKES 2014 (PBK) 91PP £5.99 ISBN 9781781123539

When a tiny silver dragon is chased out of Patrick's storybook by an equally tiny knight, all sorts of mayhem breaks loose! This dyslexia-friendly book has high-quality cream paper, an easily readable font and attractive greyscale illustrations. This story is a take on the age-old theme of what can happen when stories escape from books, in this case under the influence of 'moonshine magic'. The description of a little dragon emerging from the pages of a book is enchanting and will linger long after details of the ensuing adventure, between the book's owner, Patrick, and a dragon-hunting knight, fade. (Age 5–8)

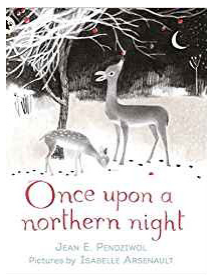


MICHELLE ROBINSON illustrated by **DAVID ROBERTS**

A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO BEAR SPOTTING

BLOOMSBURY CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2017 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781408845561

Bear spotting is a dangerous business – you ought to take it seriously, you know. This is a quirky and original take on guides or tales of instruction and is a wonderfully witty and subversive treat for all. Roberts's illustrations are finely drawn and detailed, the perfect companion to Robinson's text. An unnamed child wraps up and sets off for bear country, with a helpful narrator guiding him or her through – sort of! The result is a stylish, highly entertaining picturebook, perfect for reading aloud with plenty of laughs for bedtime and a very cautionary ending. (Age 5–8)



JEAN E. PENDZIWOL illustrated by **ISABELLE ARSENAULT**
ONCE UPON A NORTHERN NIGHT

WALKER BOOKS 2016 (PBK) 36PP £6.99 ISBN 9781406366006

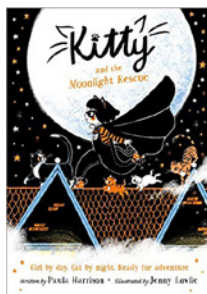
Once Upon a Northern Night narrates, with parental affection, a hushed lullaby to a sleeping child. The poetic and lyrical language celebrates the wonder and beauty of the wintry rural landscape and the wild animals which inhabit it. The snowy scenery is gorgeously sketched in predominantly black and white, but gentle hints of colour add to the magic. The muted tones and soft edges create a soothing, peaceful atmosphere. An enchanting and comforting bedtime read which will no doubt appeal to all ages. A mixture of magic, wildlife and deep comfort. Simply stunning! (Age 5–9)



PATRICIA FORDE maisithe ag **NICOLA BERNADELLO**
AN TOILEÁN THÍAR 🌱

LITTLE ISLAND BOOKS 2020 (CRUA) 20LCH €17.00 ISBN 9781912417537

I gcoim na hoíche, fad is atá an domhan mór ina chodladh téann Fia ar eachtra mhór go dtí an t-oileán thiar. Siúlann sí ar gha gealaí agus léimeann sí ó réalt go réalt. Sa deireadh leagann sí cos ar oileán draíochtúil Hy Brasil. Tá sí faoi gheasa ag an oileán seo. Téann sí ag damhsa go bun na farraige agus go barr na spéire! Cuireann an bhraistint bhríonglóideach sna léaráidí go mór leis an eachtra dhraíochtúil seo idir chodladh is dhúiseacht. (Aois 6–8)



PAULA HARRISON illustrated by **JENNY LØVLIE**
KITTY AND THE MOONLIGHT RESCUE

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS 2019 (PBK) 128PP £5.99 ISBN 9780192771650

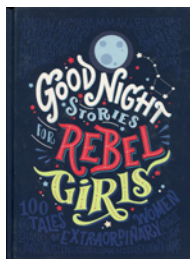
Join Kitty and her cat crew on the rooftops for a series of enchanting adventures by the light of the moon. This book has the reader tag along with Kitty and her new cat-pals as she becomes a somewhat unwilling superhero. The story has a good pace to keep readers interested in what happens next. The chapter layout means it can be spaced out over a few bedtimes or all in one go for maximum impact! The illustrations set the mood of the night-time adventure and bring the reader along for the ride. (Age 6–10)



SHANE HEGARTY illustrated by **BEN MANTLE**
BOOT: SMALL ROBOT, BIG ADVENTURE 🌱

HODDER CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 240PP £6.99 ISBN 9781444949360

A small robot called Boot awakens in a scrapyard with no idea how he got there. He only has a few memories: he knows Beth is his owner and he was loved, and this gives him the courage to try and find his way home. It's a beautiful story accompanied throughout by impressive illustrations that together capture your heart. The beginning of a great new series from Irish author Shane Hegarty. This is an unforgettable, warm-hearted tale of resilience and hope. (Age 7–9)



ELENA FAVILLI and FRANCESCA CAVALLO
GOOD NIGHT STORIES FOR REBEL GIRLS

PARTICULAR BOOKS 2017 (HBK) 224PP £20.00 ISBN 9780120420476

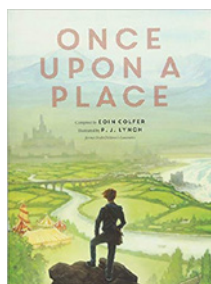
What if the princess didn't marry Prince Charming but instead went on to be an astronaut? What if the jealous stepsisters were supportive and kind? And what if the queen was the one really in charge of the kingdom? Illustrated by sixty female artists from every corner of the globe, *Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls* introduces us to one hundred remarkable women and their extraordinary lives. Empowering, moving and inspirational, these are true fairy tales, told in 'once upon a time' bedtime-story style, for heroines who definitely *don't* need rescuing. (Age 7–10)



CHRIS WORMELL
THE MAGIC PLACE

DAVID FICKLING BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 290PP £11.99 ISBN 9781788450157

Clementine spends her days cooking and cleaning for her cruel aunt and uncle and her nights dreaming of escaping to the Magic Place. With the help of Gilbert, her very clever cat, Clementine makes a daring escape, finding friendship, hope and the way to the place of her dreams. The author's lively illustrations and quirky narrative style make this a thoroughly enjoyable read, dark at times, with a truly ghastly pair of villains, but ultimately filled with light and hope. Clementine is defiant, hopeful, smart and self-reliant: a great character for all children to encounter. (Age 7–10)



compiled by EOIN COLFER illustrated by P.J. LYNCH
ONCE UPON A PLACE

LITTLE ISLAND BOOKS 2018 (PBK) 224PP €12.00 ISBN 9781910411377

A collection of eleven short stories and six poems by Ireland's top children's writers, perfect to dip in and out of before going to sleep. Each of the stories and poems is based around the theme of place, being set in or inspired by a particular location within Ireland. As a collection, *Once Upon a Place* engages with the deep significance landscape has in Irish stories, featuring tales and legends matched with eerie illustrations perfectly evoking the strangeness of these stories and of the places that have inspired them. (Age 7–12)



KIERAN FANNING illustrated by DAVID WARDLE
IRISH FAIRY TALES, MYTHS & LEGENDS

SCHOLASTIC 2020 (PBK) 256PP £5.99 ISBN 9780702300165

A treasure trove of beautifully written stories that both children and adults will relish, including well-known favourites and lesser-known tales. Each story begins with a simple explanation of its origins and similarities with international folklore, along with when each story was first written down and published. While the language is accessible, the traditional storyteller's voice has been retained, stressing the importance of the oral origins of our tales, myths and legends. Contemporary readers, particularly older children, will also find much to discuss around stereotypes of gender and language. (Age 8–12)



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